

**Q.** Are both of you confident that you can get Japan on side with some big bucks for this venture and to ignore the Northern Islands issue?

**The President.** Well, let me say this. I had a very good talk with Prime Minister Miyazawa last night. The Japanese have been very forthcoming as the leaders of the G-7. This is their year to lead, and they are leading. They are hosting this meeting of the finance and foreign ministers on the 14th and 15th, and I believe that they will fulfill their leadership role. I'm encouraged.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:39 a.m. at the Mackenzie House at the University of British Columbia. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **Exchange With Reporters With President Boris Yeltsin of Russia in Vancouver**

*April 3, 1993*

#### **Russia-U.S. Relations**

**Q.** President Yeltsin, will American aid make a difference to the political situation in Russia?

**President Yeltsin.** You know, it's always useful to help a friend, especially if a friend goes through a difficult period. And we are partners, and we are friends.

**Q.** Go ahead, Mr. President, you can talk.

**President Clinton.** I just was going to say, I don't view this as a—this is not a talk about aid; this is a talk about a long-term partnership. The United States has a great deal to gain from a strong, successful, democratic Russia. It is in our interest. And I'm very encouraged by the things that President Yeltsin has stood for, and the fight that he's waging now.

**President Yeltsin.** And the rest of the world, too.

NOTE: The exchange began at 1:55 p.m. at the MacKenzie House at the University of British Columbia. President Yeltsin spoke in Russian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

### **The President's New Conference With President Boris Yeltsin of Russia in Vancouver**

*April 4, 1993*

**President Clinton.** Good afternoon. I have just completed 2 days of intensely productive discussions with President Boris Yeltsin. I want to join him in thanking Prime Minister Mulroney and the people of Canada for their hospitality. The beauty of Vancouver has inspired our work here, and this weekend I believe we have laid the foundation for a new democratic partnership between the United States and Russia.

The heroic deeds of Boris Yeltsin and the Russian people launched their reforms toward democracy and market economies and defended them valiantly during the dark days of August of 1991. Now it is the self-interest and the high duty of all the world's democracies to stand by Russia's democratic reforms in their new hour of challenge.

The contrast between our promising new partnership and our confrontational past underscores the opportunities that hang in the balance today. For 45 years we pursued a deadly competition in nuclear arms. Now we can pursue a safe and steady cooperation to reduce the arsenals that have haunted mankind. For 45 years our Nation invested trillions of dollars to contain and deter Soviet communism. Now the emergence of a peaceful and democratic Russia can enable us to devote more to our own domestic needs.

The emergence of a newly productive and prosperous Russia could add untold billions in new growth to the global economy. That would mean new jobs and new investment opportunities for Americans and our allies around the world. We are investing today not only in the future of Russia but in the future of America as well.

Mr. President, our Nation will not stand on the sidelines when it comes to democracy in Russia. We know where we stand. We are with Russian democracy. We are with Russian reforms. We are with Russian markets.